(a) whether it is a fact that the water being supplied to the Capital during the last one year is contaminated and is injurious to health;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to the various tests conducted by Government, this is due to the mixing of adulterated alum supplied by a firm from Gujarat; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action has been taken against this company for supplying adulterated alum?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No alum has been purchased from any firm from Gujarat.

Payment of Fair Market Price for Acquired Land

*369. SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers whose lands are taken over under the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 are not being paid the fair market price prevailing at the time of taking over of the lands;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the farmers are given negotiable bonds for 75 per cent of the price of the lands and, the bonds, are redeemable after the expiry of 20 years; and

(c) whether the guidelines issued by Government for exemption to Agricultural lands under the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act 1976 are followed by the States/Union Territories where this Act is applicable?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Amount for the vacant land acquired under the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 is paid in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act which prescribe different rates in respect of vacant land from which there is any income and vacant land from which no income is derived.

(b) The relevant provisions of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 provide for payment of twenty five per cent of the amount or twenty five thousand rupees, whichever is less, in cash and the balance in negotiable bonds redeemable after the expiry of twenty years, carrying an interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum with effect from the date on which the vacant land is deemed to have been acquired by the State Government.

(c) The guidelines issued by the Government of India are recommendatory in nature. Individual cases are decided by the State Governments/Union Territories on merit.

Drought Affected Areas of Uttar Pradesh

*370. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
DR. C. SILVERA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that effective relief measures for the drought affected people in most of Uttar Pradesh could not be taken up as the Central Government have not released the grants for the purpose;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pardesh has approached the Central Government for an additional grant of Rs. 100 crores for relief measures;

(c) if so, when was the request received and what action has been taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) whether any central team has visited the drought affected areas of

Uttar Pradesh; if so, what are their findings and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) For undertaking effective relief measures as and when the need arises, margin money has been allotted to every State by the Finance Commission. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has a margin money of Rs. 32.50 crores. The Government of India has already released its share of the margin money namely Rs. 16.25 crores to facilitate relief measures.

(b) The Chief Minister, U.P. by his letter of 25-7-87 requested for a ways and means advance of Rs. 50|- crores only. Subsequently the Revenue Minister of the Uttar Pradesh State Government revised his request to Rs. 100|- crore by his letter of 7th August, 1987.

(c) 12th August, 1987; However, the memorandum containing State Government's specific proposals was received on the 16th August, 1987 and these proposals are under the consideration of the Government of India.

(d) An assessment Team which visited the States from the 6th to the 8th August, 1987 had recommended the release of central share of margin money.

Misuse of Funds meant for Natural Calamities and Anti-Poverty Programme

*371. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many State Governments have misused funds or have incurred irregular expenditure running into lakhs of rupees out of the funds meant for anti-poverty programme under the Integrated Rural Development Programmes;

b) whether Government are also aware that some State Governments have not properly utilised the funds for relief of distress caused by natural calamities;

(c) if so, what are the details in respect of parts (a) and (b) above; and

(d) what is the Government's reaction thereto and what action have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) (i) Details in respect of (a) above are as under:

A test review of implementation of IRD Programme in most of the States was undertaken in 1983-84 whereupon irregularities in implementation as well as expenditure incurred on activities not admissible under IRD Programme has been detected from the reports of State Accountant Generals and incorporated in the CAG report for the year 1983-84. The instances highlighted cover programmes period 1978-79 to 1983-84. CAG findings were discussed by the PAC in 1985 and departmental evidence evaluated.

It was found that in the 17 States| UTs more than Rs. 16 crores was spent on schemes not connected with IRDP or on items which are unrelated to IRDP. In a number of States, cases of payment of stipend at rates higher than admissible under TRYSEM were also noticed.

(ii) Details in respect of (b) above are as under:

Central Monitoring Teams (CMT) have visited Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala recently to monitor utilisation of relief assistance. A large number of irregularities|shortcomings have been revealed during the monitoring. The glaring irregularities/shortcoming observed by CMT are listed below: